

Pamela Partridge West
Nominee to the Judicial Review Council

Good afternoon, Senator Looney, Representative Janowski, members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee.

It is a privilege to appear before you today. I am honored to have been nominated by the governor to serve on the Judicial Review Council, and I appreciate your setting aside the time to meet with me. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

I believe that a suitable candidate for the Judicial Review Council is an individual who approaches challenges with an open and inquisitive mind, explores and considers diverse perspectives, analyzes relevant facts and circumstances, and exercises fair, unbiased judgment. In addition, I believe that effective members of the council act with an appreciation for the messages their decisions send forward—in terms of precedent for future complaints and in terms of impact on the abilities of affected parties to conduct their responsibilities.

My experience and my temperament suit well the position for which I am being considered. I have learned many valuable and practical lessons from my advisory work with private clients and nonprofit organizations, the leadership roles that I have had within major companies, and my experience running the boards of a number of community organizations.

Fundamental to my career success was my approach to working with people: listening; asking questions; taking the time to understand the complexities of each situation; considering both the short-term and the long-term interests of relevant parties (often conflicting interests); appreciating the human element of what some might see only in legal, tax, investment or corporate contexts; and, crafting appropriate, practical and effective solutions.

I brought the same approach and demeanor to my community commitments that I brought to my professional career. I launched new ventures. I helped to strengthen mature organizations. I brought people together in ways that fostered mutual respect and delivered positive results in which participants felt constructively engaged. I raised substantial sums of money for worthy causes.

Throughout my life, I have embraced challenges with sincere enthusiasm, a sense of purpose, and a focus on collaborative success. I am grateful for the opportunities I have had to make a difference in so many areas and with so many people. They have brought me great joy.

My education and family life prepared me well for the business and community leadership positions I have held. I graduated from Williams College, a liberal arts institution where rigorous curricula and high standards develop strong minds, a life-long love for learning, and commitments to individual responsibility and mutual respect. The academic environment matched well my personal values and my upbringing.

Now...after several years of retirement, I look forward to being of service to the state where my family has lived for many generations and where my husband and I have been privileged to raise our children. If I am approved for appointment to the Judicial Review Council, I am confident that I will be an effective member. Thank you for your consideration. I welcome your questions.